

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH El Mes de la Herencia Hispana September 15 – October 15

The Civil Rights Division is recognizing **Hispanic Heritage Month** throughout the month of October.



Employee Spotlight



Eduardo J. Trevino-Rivera

Region 1 TDOT Operations District Specialist

He enjoys playing sports, hiking, camping, kayaking and Olympic Power Lifting. He spends time with family and friends at the lake or traveling seeking new adventures.

Joined TDOT June 2019

Tell us about a moment in Hispanic History that influenced or shaped your career/life?

I come from a small island in the Caribbean known as Puerto Rico, that has withstood not only a worldwide pandemic but has been beaten by natural disasters left and right since I was born. Puerto Rico through out history has been known as “La Isla del Encanto” which translates to “the Island of Enchantment”. Being immersed in this culture has influenced me in every aspect of who I am and how I view the world. How to treat your neighbor, and the ability to hone perseverance is something that I’ve learned through my Hispanic heritage.

Who within or outside TDOT has been influential in your career? Are they a mentor today?

I’ve been blessed my whole life to have wise guidance from my parents and other knowledgeable mentors on every step of the way in my career and in my life. Its tough to pinpoint one individual, however my High School football coach, Todd Stevenson, has impacted me in so many ways. Not only on the football field where I was able to achieve success and then obtain a Bachelors degree, but in my everyday walk he has been influential. He has helped me strive for better things, challenge myself in everyway possible, and to not be complacent, but to always have a goal to work towards.

Which of the TDOT Values (Stewardship, Integrity, Safety, Consistency, Development, Innovation, Collaboration & Family) that are listed within the Strategic Plan, resonates with you and with diversity? State why?

Consistency and Stewardship are two of the values that resonates with me. For example, in football someone that is consistent in his job/duty no matter the difficulty and works hard to do it well, is always looked at as a great player. I believe this also can be applied in life, when staying consistent towards a vision or a goal. As Dwayne Johnson states, “Greatness will come”.

Why is it important to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month, especially in 2021?

Every culture is equally important therefore taking time to spotlight each one throughout the year is an opportunity to learn more about each other. Hispanic heritage gives the chance for someone with a Latino background to discover more of themselves and their own history. Allows others to appreciate and go forth and inspire to achieve more. Learning cultural differences allows us to appreciate our similarities and our differences.